

## APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XX and at the direction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I move to insist on the House amendments to S. 440 and to request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendments, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SHUSTER, CLINGER, PETRI, EMERSON, LAHOOD, MINETA, OBERSTAR, and RAHALL.

There was no objection.

## REQUEST TO SPEAK OUT OF ORDER

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I am inquiring is this a 1-minute? What is the period of time being granted to the gentleman?

Mr. GIBBONS. Three minutes, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has asked for 3 minutes. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

## REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE FOR 1 MINUTE

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

## REQUEST TO SPEAK ON POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak on a point of personal privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot entertain a unanimous-consent request to speak on a point of personal privilege.

## FREE AND FULL DEBATE MUST BE ALLOWED IN THE HOUSE

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I do not want to turn this body into an authori-

tarian dictatorship, but recently, in the Ways and Means Committee I attended a meeting regularly called and I attempted to speak on a motion that was being made. I was immediately cut off by a parliamentary maneuver, and not given a chance to speak.

□ 1800

I have been here 33 years, Mr. Speaker. I do not believe I have ever seen that happen, I know in the Committee on Ways and Means, and I have never seen it happen on this floor. I know that my Republican friends are trying to hide their Medicare program from the American public, and we are doing the best we can to let the American public know what is going on. But the kind of parliamentary procedure I see around here now shocks me. This body is going to be seriously injured if we act in an authoritarian way and allow no debate.

## CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1817, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 223 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

## H. RES. 223

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1817) making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HALL], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During the consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

House Resolution 223 is a straightforward resolution. The proposed rule merely waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. This resolution was reported out of the Committee on Rules by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, the conference report on H.R. 1817, the legislation making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 1996 is critical legislation. This conference report appropriates \$11.2 billion in fiscal year 1996, the same as the House-passed bill, and \$2.5 billion more than in fiscal year 1995. Additionally, 40 percent of the funds in the bill are appropriated for family housing. Furthermore, \$3.9 billion, 35 percent of the total bill, is appropriated for base realignment and closure. I urge my colleagues to sup-

port the rule as well as the underlying legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HALL of Ohio asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend my colleague from Colorado, Mr. MCINNIS, as well as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for bringing this rule to the floor.

House Resolution 223 makes it in order to consider the conference report on H.R. 1817, the military construction appropriation bill for fiscal 1996 and waives all points of order against the conference report. The Rules Committee reported the rule without opposition by voice vote.

The conference report on H.R. 1817 appropriates \$4.3 billion for family housing, \$3.9 billion for base realignment and closure projects, and \$2.8 billion for other military construction. The funds will allow the Department of Defense to maintain adequate housing for members of the Armed Forces. It will also provide construction funds for upgrading existing structures and building new facilities.

I am pleased that the conference report includes \$10 million for construction projects at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. This includes \$4.1 million to upgrade a 40-year-old electrical distribution system that supports laboratories on the base. The funds also include \$5.9 million for a much-needed renovation of 66 units of housing at Page Manor, a neighborhood of homes for junior officers and enlisted personnel at Wright-Patterson.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the rule.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 223, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 1817) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the conference report is considered as having been read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of September 14, 1995, at page H8954.)

## PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry. VerDate 20-SEP-95 07:02 Sep 21, 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I understand the rulings of the House provide that when the subcommittee chair and the ranking member are both in favor of the bill, that one-third of the time shall be allotted to allow a Member opposed to the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. HEFNER] in favor of the conference report?

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I am in favor of the conference report, yes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina is in favor. The gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] is correct. There could be a three-way split of the time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that I might be allotted one-third of the time being in opposition to the bill.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, we have no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair assumes the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] is opposed to the conference report?

Mr. OBEY. He certainly is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(a) of rule XXVIII, the gentlewoman from Nevada [Mrs. VUCANOVICH] will be recognized for 20 minutes, the gentleman from North

Carolina [Mr. HEFNER] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada [Mrs. VUCANOVICH].

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the conference report we present to the House today for military construction, family housing and base closure recommends a total appropriation of \$11.2 billion. This represents a \$479 million increase over the President's request and a \$2.4 billion increase over fiscal year 1995. Mr. Speaker, this is the exact level of funding which passed the House in June by a vote of 319 to 105.

Mr. Speaker, the House conferees had more than 200 differences to resolve, representing over \$1 billion. We have done so in an equitable manner. At the same time, we held to our priorities and provided an additional \$223 million for troop housing and \$186 million for family housing above the President's request.

Overall, the agreement recommends \$4.3 billion for items related to family housing; \$3.9 billion for the implementation of base realignments and clo-

tures; and \$2.8 billion for military construction. In addition, \$161 million is provided for the NATO Security Investment Program.

Mr. Speaker, the projects to be implemented with this appropriation are still subject to authorization. While that conference is ongoing we have worked closely with the National Security Committee in crafting this bill. This cooperation has been invaluable and I understand they support this agreement.

As always, I want to express my appreciation to all the members of the subcommittee and especially our ranking minority member, Mr. HEFNER, for his cooperation in crafting this agreement. It has been done in a bipartisan manner and is an equitable compromise.

I would like to thank staff members for their professional and expert help. We couldn't do it without them.

This bill represents an investment program that has significant payback in economic terms and in better living and working conditions for our military personnel and their families. I urge my colleagues to support this conference report.

Mr. Speaker, I included statistical information for the RECORD. VerDate 20-SEP-95 07:02 Sep

## FY 1996 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS BILL (H.R. 1817)

	FY 1995 Enacted	FY 1996 Estimate	House	Senate	Conference	Conference compared with enacted
Military construction, Army.....	550,476,000	472,724,000	611,806,000	516,864,000	633,814,000	+83,338,000
Rescission.....				-8,245,000		
Total, Military construction, Army (net).....	550,476,000	472,724,000	611,806,000	510,419,000	633,814,000	+83,338,000
Military construction, Navy.....	385,110,000	488,086,000	588,843,000	552,588,000	584,836,000	+109,528,000
Military construction, Air Force.....	516,813,000	485,855,000	578,841,000	589,818,000	587,234,000	+70,421,000
Rescission.....				-18,006,000	-8,785,000	
Total, Military construction, Air Force (net).....	516,813,000	485,855,000	578,841,000	553,811,000	578,489,000	+61,866,000
Military construction, Defense-wide.....	504,118,000	857,405,000	728,332,000	828,078,000	840,357,000	+136,239,000
Rescission.....				-28,755,000	-23,521,000	
Total, Military construction, Defense-wide (net).....	504,118,000	857,405,000	728,332,000	801,323,000	816,836,000	+112,718,000
Total, Active components.....	1,956,517,000	2,313,870,000	2,597,924,000	2,417,839,000	2,983,755,000	+427,236,000
Military construction, Army National Guard.....	188,082,000	18,480,000	72,537,000	158,357,000	137,110,000	-50,982,000
Military construction, Air National Guard.....	249,056,000	85,847,000	118,287,000	188,972,000	171,272,000	-77,784,000
Rescission.....				-6,700,000	-6,700,000	
Total, Military construction, Air National Guard (net).....	249,056,000	85,847,000	118,287,000	182,272,000	184,572,000	-84,484,000
Military construction, Army Reserve.....	57,370,000	42,983,000	42,983,000	83,423,000	72,726,000	+15,358,000
Military construction, Naval Reserve.....	22,748,000	7,920,000	19,855,000	7,920,000	18,055,000	-3,893,000
Military construction, Air Force Reserve.....	57,088,000	27,002,000	31,802,000	35,447,000	38,482,000	-20,584,000
Total, Reserve components.....	574,302,000	182,012,000	284,824,000	445,419,000	429,847,000	-144,355,000
Total, Military construction.....	2,530,819,000	2,495,882,000	2,791,948,000	2,863,358,000	2,813,702,000	+262,883,000
Appropriations.....	(2,530,819,000)	(2,495,882,000)	(2,791,948,000)	(2,919,083,000)	(2,892,886,000)	(+321,866,000)
Rescissions.....				(-55,705,000)	(-36,886,000)	(-36,886,000)
NATO Security Investment Program.....	119,000,000	179,000,000	181,000,000	181,000,000	181,000,000	+42,000,000
Family housing, Army:						
Construction.....	170,002,000	43,500,000	128,400,000	71,752,000	116,886,000	-53,346,000
Operation and maintenance.....	1,013,708,000	1,337,588,000	1,337,588,000	1,339,188,000	1,335,886,000	+321,888,000
Total, Family housing, Army.....	1,183,710,000	1,381,088,000	1,465,988,000	1,410,940,000	1,452,772,000	+268,542,000
Family housing, Navy and Marine Corps:						
Construction.....	287,485,000	465,755,000	531,286,000	512,947,000	525,056,000	+257,563,000
Operation and maintenance.....	937,589,000	1,048,329,000	1,048,328,000	1,051,829,000	1,048,329,000	+110,730,000
Total, Family housing, Navy.....	1,205,084,000	1,514,084,000	1,579,614,000	1,564,776,000	1,573,385,000	+368,323,000
Family housing, Air Force:						
Construction.....	277,444,000	249,003,000	294,503,000	287,137,000	287,736,000	+20,294,000
Operation and maintenance.....	824,845,000	849,213,000	863,213,000	850,059,000	849,213,000	+24,386,000
House floor amendment.....			-6,988,000			
Total, Family housing, Air Force.....	1,102,289,000	1,098,216,000	1,150,730,000	1,117,196,000	1,146,951,000	+44,662,000
Family housing, Defense-wide:						
Construction.....	350,000	3,772,000	3,772,000	3,772,000	3,772,000	+3,422,000
Operation and maintenance.....	29,031,000	30,467,000	30,467,000	42,387,000	30,467,000	+1,436,000
Total, Family housing, Defense-wide.....	29,381,000	34,239,000	34,239,000	46,159,000	34,239,000	+4,858,000
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund 1/..		22,000,000	22,000,000	22,000,000	22,000,000	+22,000,000
Homeowners Assistance Fund, Defense.....		75,586,000	75,586,000	75,586,000	75,586,000	+75,586,000
Total, Family housing.....	3,520,444,000	4,125,221,000	4,326,188,000	4,236,745,000	4,304,415,000	+763,971,000
Construction.....	(715,261,000)	(782,030,000)	(855,984,000)	(855,806,000)	(843,224,000)	(+227,863,000)
Operation and maintenance.....	(2,805,183,000)	(3,285,805,000)	(3,278,805,000)	(3,283,551,000)	(3,283,608,000)	(+488,422,000)
Family Housing Improvement Fund.....		(22,000,000)	(22,000,000)	(22,000,000)	(22,000,000)	(+22,000,000)
Homeowners Assistance Fund.....		(75,586,000)	(75,586,000)	(75,586,000)	(75,586,000)	(+75,586,000)
Base realignment and closure accounts:						
Part I.....	87,800,000					-87,800,000
Part II.....	265,700,000	984,843,000	984,843,000	984,843,000	984,843,000	+689,143,000
(Ey transfer).....	(133,000,000)					(-133,000,000)
Part III.....	2,322,858,000	2,148,480,000	2,148,480,000	2,148,480,000	2,148,480,000	-174,378,000
Part IV.....		784,589,000	784,589,000	784,589,000	784,589,000	+784,589,000
Total, Base realignment and closure accounts.....	2,676,158,000	3,897,892,000	3,897,892,000	3,897,892,000	3,897,892,000	+1,221,734,000

**FY 1996 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS BILL (H.R. 1817) — continued**

	FY 1985 Enacted	FY 1995 Estimate	House	Senate	Conference	Conference compared with enacted
Procurement: General provisions 2/.....	-10,421,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	+10,421,000
FY 1985 Emergency Supplemental (P.L. 104-8).....	-100,800,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	+100,800,000
<b>Grand total.....</b>	<b>8,735,400,000</b>	<b>10,867,985,000</b>	<b>11,177,008,000</b>	<b>11,158,985,000</b>	<b>11,177,008,000</b>	<b>+2,441,808,000</b>
Appropriations.....	(8,735,400,000)	(10,867,985,000)	(11,177,008,000)	(11,214,700,000)	(11,218,985,000)	(+2,480,985,000)
(By transfer).....	(133,000,000)	.....	.....	.....	.....	(-133,000,000)
Rescission.....	.....	.....	.....	(-55,705,000)	(-38,988,000)	(-38,988,000)

1/ Budget amendment submitted 8/2/85 (H.Doc. 104-80).

2/ Budget amendment submitted 2/18/95 (H.Doc. 103-220, page 10).

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Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HEFNER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of fiscal year 1996's military construction conference report and want to compliment the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Construction for her fine work in this bill. I would like to congratulate her also on presiding over her first bill on military construction as the chairman of this subcommittee, and she has done a tremendous job.

I would also be remiss if I did not congratulate the very fine staff that has worked so hard in a bipartisan manner to put together this—what we consider a very, very good bill. I would also like to say that over the course of hearings on this bill we invited all the services in, all the people that had any interest whatsoever in military construction, whether it be Members or people in the private sector. We had extensive hearings, and we got a lot of information from people all over the country and from individual Members in this House on concerns that they had, as far as it goes, for quality of life for our military personnel and for our families that are involved in service to this great country of ours.

I think the gentlewoman basically covered all the numbers that we have come up with in this bill. It is somewhat over the President's request, and OMB has said that there could be some concern and there could be the possibility of a veto of this bill, but certainly we hope that would not be the case, because over the years we have worked very, very hard in this subcommittee addressing basically the quality of life for our men and women in our Armed Forces. We have continued to do that and we believe that this bill furthers the goal that will help us move forward to have better quality of life and help us with retention of the people that serve so nobly in our Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 6 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, in the next 45 days, this Congress will define—for years to come—our top priorities. We will decide how much we are going to gouge senior citizens on Medicare; we will decide how much we are going to threaten the quality of children's education, their ability to get student loans, their ability to get the assistance they will need in early childhood education programs.

We will decide how much we are going to clobber low income senior citizens, who are desperately struggling to avoid a choice between heating their homes and paying their prescription drug bills and their bills for food. Yet, this Congress is apparently ready to pass a Pentagon spending bill which

will add billions of dollars to the amount requested by the President and the Pentagon leadership, and even on this bill, that warped sense of priorities continues.

□ 1815

Mr. Speaker, this conference report is \$479 million over the amount requested by the President in his budget. It is almost \$2½ billion above the amount spent last year, and that is a 28-percent increase in the amount that was spent last year. Of that amount, a significant portion is for what is known as quality-of-life projects such as barracks, child care centers, family housing. I do not begrudge anyone any of those projects, and I pose no objection to any of them. I have other objections to this bill, because this bill not only exceeds the amount requested by the President, but it adds significant amounts for unrequested projects, above the President's request.

The conference agreement funds 102 unrequested projects, totaling some \$801 million. Again, it is no Federal offense for the Congress to decide that it is going to fund some items that the President and the Pentagon have not asked for. That is our prerogative. However, I would point out that if we compare the House add-ons and the add-ons in the Senate, the Senate bill added a total of \$774 million, of which only \$303 million was for quality-of-life projects.

While the conference agreement added some \$430 million for quality-of-life, it also adds in excess of \$370 million for non-quality-of-life. It contains funding for some 23 projects, totaling about \$150 million, which are not even on the Pentagon's 5-year construction plan. That means that if we were to give the Pentagon all the money that they could spend for 5 years rather than 1 year for these construction projects, the Pentagon would still not choose to fund those 23 projects. It seems to me, at the very least, that the committee ought to reconsider the large amount of funding by which it has exceeded the Pentagon's 5-year project request list.

Because of that, and because the committee declined to further limit those kinds of projects, I feel I have no choice but to oppose the passage of this conference report. I have served on this subcommittee in the past, and I respect each and every member who serves on it. I would suggest that the lion's share of the projects in this bill are fully justifiable, but I do not believe, given the desperate condition of the budget, and given the excruciating competition for scarce dollars, that we can afford to be almost half a billion dollars above the request of the Pentagon and the President for these projects.

I would especially suggest that when we will be asked to vote very shortly on bills which make severe reductions in other programs that are severely needed by working-class people in this country—whether it be in programs for

low-income workers who are being gouged by the loss of the earned income tax credit, whose taxes are being raised by recommendations, for instance, of the Committee on Ways and Means—we are going to be asked to swallow packages like that at the same time that we are being asked to buy this huge increase in spending. To me, it indicates a very warped sense of priorities and a degree of excess that the country neither can afford nor wants at this point. Therefore, I would urge opposition to final passage of the conference report.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes and 30 seconds to the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. HEFLEY], chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities of the Committee on National Security.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1817, the military construction appropriations bill for fiscal year 1996.

At the outset, as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities, I want to commend Chairman VUCANOVICH and the ranking Democratic member of the subcommittee, Mr. HEFNER, for their commitment to working closely with the authorization committee in putting together a military construction program for the coming year that addresses some of the most serious deficiencies faced by the military services.

There is no question that critical portions of the military construction program are underfunded. For example, the Army has provided testimony to both committees that indicates they would need \$250 million per year over the next 23 years to buydown the problem of inadequate and substandard barracks. Yet, the administration requested just under \$201 million for troop housing for the Army in fiscal year 1996. This legislation provides an additional \$101 million above the administration's request in troop housing for the Army.

The example I just gave reflects the guiding principle of our joint approach to military construction. H.R. 1817 puts a premium on quality-of-life improvements for service personnel and their families. Those improvements will enhance readiness and retention.

Some question the level of additional funding the Congress has dedicated to this purpose. There is no doubt in my mind that a careful examination of the extensive hearing record developed by both the appropriations and authorization committees leads to one inescapable conclusion—the military construction program is underfunded, and serious problems have been left wanting.

This is a problem with deep roots. Administrations of both parties have permitted the Nation's military infrastructure to deteriorate. We are at a crossroads and this bill is a milestone to begin to turn the problem around. VerDate 20-SEP-95

Despite the criticism of some in this House and the press, the facts are that the dollars added for unrequested projects to the military construction appropriations bill are fewer this year than in the recent past. At the same time, more money has been put toward troop housing, family housing, child development centers, and medical facilities—all of which are needed by military personnel and their families. The quality-of-life package agreed to by the conferees represents 60 percent of the projects added to the bill. What we should not lose sight of is that we have consulted with the services on these projects and they reflect their priorities and their needs—not ours.

The conferees have done more with less. They have made hard choices. This legislation is essential to the operational needs of the services. It will provide the funding necessary to conclude the base closure and realignment process. More importantly, thousands of military personnel and their families will have their quality of life enhanced by this bill. H.R. 1817 is a good bill and it deserves the support of the House—and the signature of the President.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California [Mr. CUNNINGHAM].

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY], talked about poor children, education, and he used the rough language to scare the American people. I would like to remind the gentleman that the President cut defense \$177 billion, and cost over 1 million jobs in California. Ninety-five percent of education is funded out of State tax revenue.

We also, on a partisan line when they were in the majority, extended Somalia. We said, "It is going to cost billions of dollars." We had to run out of there with our tails between our legs. Look at Haiti, another embarkation. What would happen in Haiti? It is costing us billions of dollars. These kinds of funds which we need to support the defense of this country the gentleman disregards.

Yes, there are a lot of critical issues. They cut defense \$177 billion. They called for additional base closures. Where do Members expect to put the carriers and the military construction when we close places like Alameda and put millions of people out of work? Think about it, I would say to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY].

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to get into a rehash of this, but if the gentleman from California wants, I would be glad to oblige for as long as he desire it. Let me give some examples of the absolutely stupid and unnecessary spending which is being defended in the name of "defense."

We start with the B-2. Despite the fact that the major study being done to determine what the proper level of pur-

chases for that airplane would be, despite the fact that that commission came back and told us that we ought to buy 20, which is exactly what the Pentagon suggested we buy, the great wizards of this House have decided that we ought to buy 40. The additional cost of each B-2 is \$1.2 billion, and Congress in its infinite wisdom, if it follows the judgment of this House, will buy twice as many as the Pentagon wants at a cost of \$1.2 billion per plane.

For the cost of just one of those airplanes we could pay the tuition for every single student, every single undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin for the next 11 years. I call that widely outlandish and unnecessary and stupid spending.

Next we have the F-22. It is supposed to replace the F-15. When we started buying the F-15, we were told it would last us until the year 2015. Now we are told we have to replace that baby years early, at a cost of \$70 billion. I make absolutely no apology for thinking that that is waste and that it ought to be eliminated.

I would also point out to the gentleman that after the seventh year of the budget, the defense budget adopted by this Congress is in fact lower than the defense budget submitted by President Clinton. There will not be room in that defense budget to fund every weapons system that this House has decided to buy. We are going to have to eliminate a number of them.

I make absolutely no apology for calling attention to the waste and stupidity associated with funding those weapons systems. I would be happy, if the gentleman wants to rehash the entire defense budget, to go on all night. But I would simply say at this point, I would repeat the original point I tried to make on this bill. It has a number of projects which the Pentagon itself would not even put on its construction list if we gave them 5 years' money, let alone the 1 year's money contained in this bill. I think that indicates there is some spending here that ought to be eliminated. I stand by my original position.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BUYER].

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I come here to the floor to thank both the chairman and the ranking member for working out at times what can be differences, but measured on the whole, I think is a very good military construction appropriation budget. I came here because I was hopeful I would listen to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] and whether or not he would address some concerns and allegations that he had made in a Dear Colleague, and some press statements, and which he did not come to the floor to retract, so I came here to open up a colloquy with the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] about having some questions.

Mr. Speaker, I understand the politics and things, and what he has done is he has cited some examples of the pork. He cited a fire station at Grissom Air Force Base. He said, "There are numerous reasons that this \$4.25 million project is not included in the Pentagon planning list. First, except for a small ammunition storage area used by the Reserves, this base is being closed," and he underlined that. "Second, the base already has one fire station, which in the judgment of the DOD construction authorities is more than adequate to support the future operations at the base."

□ 1830

Actually, I ask if the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] has received a letter from me today to respond to the factual inaccuracies.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BUYER. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. I concede no inaccuracies.

Mr. BUYER. Reclaiming my time, then, the facts contained in the press release of the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] are factually wrong and inaccurate, and I am hopeful not with any malicious intent. Grissom has not been closed. For him to say that that is accurate is completely false and someone is misguiding him. It has been realigned to a reserve base. It was done in October 1994. The Air Force has requested funds to build the fire training facility at Grissom in fiscal year 1996 and had the fire station placed on the schedule for construction in 1998. The House merely moves the request for the station up 2 years for the facility to be constructed within the reserve cantonment area.

Grissom is home to the 434th Air Refueling Wing. There is currently a proposal to move the Indiana National Guard helicopters to Grissom Air Force Base as well.

I invite the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] to look at these facilities. He would know why we need this fire station for readiness. He is being misguided.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BUYER] in a letter to me dated today suggested that the Air Force base is not being closed as he said I erroneously asserted.

What I asserted, and I stand by it, in my letter, I said that the base is being closed except for an ammunition storage function, which is in fact the case for active duty forces.

I would point out with respect to the assertion that this proposal was scheduled to be on the 5-year Pentagon planning list, in fact, the Office of Management and Budget has assured me that this project is not included in the 5-year plan. Just because the base commander wants it included on the 5-year plan does not mean it has been put there yet. VerDate 20-SEP-95 07:02 Sep 21, 1995 Jkt 099061 P

Third, I would simply note that in 1991, as I understand this project, there were some 3,200 civilian employees. Now there are about 700. Yet we are told that we need yet another fire station when they got by with one, the old one, before this base was significantly downsized.

I stand by my view that this project under those circumstances ought not be funded.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD a letter from General McIntosh, Chief of the Air Force, that talked about the military construction project, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,  
HEADQUARTERS U.S. AIR FORCE,  
Washington DC, September 20, 1995.

Hon. BARBARA VUCANOVICH,  
Chairwoman, Committee on Appropriations,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM CHAIRMAN: Congress has inserted a military construction project into the Air Force Reserve's fiscal year 1996 military construction program. This project, Construct New Fire Station at Grissom Air Reserve Base, Indiana, at an estimated cost of \$4.25 million, is a valid Air Force Reserve requirement and is not affected by the base closure process.

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT A. MCINTOSH,  
Chief of Air Force Reserve.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, to say that this was just requested by a base commander is totally inaccurate.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, taking back the balance of my time, just because a general wants it put on the 5-year list does not mean it is there yet. It is not. The OMB determines what is on that list as the gentleman knows. It is not on the list yet. It might be in the future if somebody's plans come true, but it is not on the list yet, and that is all we can go by.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield further, I think it is the U.S. Congress who is charged with the responsibility to build the forces to protect the Nation's national security. And that is extremely important.

Mr. OBEY. Taking back my time, that does not deny the fact that it is not on the Pentagon list. The gentleman is erroneous when he asserts it is.

Mr. BUYER. I say to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] that it is absolutely false and inaccurate, and completely disappointing.

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote on the bill. It is not a perfect bill, but I think it is a very good bill and it accomplishes a lot of things that need to be done for our men and women in service and for retention.

Certainly there are some things in this bill that the gentleman from Nevada [Mrs. VUCANOVICH] and I would not like to have been in this bill, but we do have to go to conference and we do have to unfortunately have a con-

ference with the other body. We do not get a perfect bill on every occasion. But we think that we have a good product. I would urge an "aye" vote on the final passage of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 additional minutes.

I would simply make one additional point with respect to the project that was just discussed between the gentleman from Indiana and myself.

As I understand it, there are some 2,600 projects on the Pentagon's 5-year list. What the gentleman wants this House to do as I understand it is to move his project ahead of those 2,600 projects. I do not think that is justified.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. BUYER. How many C-130's are headed to Wisconsin?

Mr. OBEY. I do not support purchase of additional C-130's.

Mr. BUYER. I do not recall the gentleman moving to have them stricken from the budget.

Mr. OBEY. I did not realize I was required to offer an amendment opposing every item that I was opposed to.

Did the gentleman vote for my amendments to eliminate the F-22 and the B-2?

Mr. BUYER. No, I did not. I supported the B-2 bomber. If we have a disagreement with it, that is fine.

Mr. OBEY. We certainly do have a big disagreement. The gentleman wants to spend a lot of money that I do not want to spend.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again thank the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. HEFNER] for working so closely with us to make a good bill. The compromise of course does not ever satisfy all of us, but we think we have come up with a good conference report.

With that, I urge support of our conference report.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TORKILDSEN). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the conference report.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XV, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 326, nays 98, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 680]

YEAS—326

Abercrombie  
Ackerman

Archer  
Armey

Bachus  
Baesler

Baker (CA)  
Baker (LA)  
Baldacci  
Barcia  
Barr  
Barrett (NE)  
Bartlett  
Barton  
Bass  
Bateman  
Bentsen  
Bereuter  
Bevill  
Bilbray  
Bilirakis  
Bishop  
Bliley  
Blute  
Boehlert  
Boehner  
Bonilla  
Bono  
Borski  
Boucher  
Brewster  
Browder  
Brown (FL)  
Brownback  
Bryant (TN)  
Bunn  
Bunning  
Burr  
Burton  
Buyer  
Callahan  
Calvert  
Canady  
Chambliss  
Chapman  
Chenoweth  
Christensen  
Chrysler  
Clay  
Clayton  
Clement  
Clinger  
Clyburn  
Coble  
Coleman  
Collins (GA)  
Combust  
Condit  
Costello  
Cox  
Cramer  
Crane  
Crapo  
Creameans  
Cubin  
Cunningham  
Danner  
Davis  
de la Garza  
Deal  
DeLauro  
DeLay  
Deutsch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dickey  
Dicks  
Dixon  
Dooley  
Doolittle  
Dornan  
Doyle  
Dreier  
Dunn  
Durbin  
Edwards  
Ehrlich  
Emerson  
English  
Ensign  
Eshoo  
Everett  
Ewing  
Farr  
Fattah  
Fawell  
Fazio  
Fields (LA)  
Fields (TX)  
Flake  
Flanagan  
Foglietta  
Foley  
Forbes  
Ford

Franks (CT)  
Frelinghuysen  
Frisa  
Frost  
Funderburk  
Gallegly  
Ganske  
Gejdenson  
Gekas  
Gephardt  
Geren  
Gibbons  
Gilchrest  
Gillmor  
Gilman  
Gonzalez  
Goodlatte  
Goodling  
Gordon  
Goss  
Graham  
Green  
Greenwood  
Gunderson  
Hall (OH)  
Hall (TX)  
Hamilton  
Hancock  
Hansen  
Hastert  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Hayworth  
Hefley  
Hefner  
Heineman  
Herger  
Hilleary  
Hobson  
Hoke  
Holden  
Hostettler  
Houghton  
Hoyer  
Hunter  
Hutchinson  
Hyde  
Ingalls  
Istook  
Jackson-Lee  
Jacobs  
Jefferson  
Johnson (CT)  
Johnson (SD)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Kasich  
Kelly  
Kennedy (RI)  
Kennelly  
Kildee  
Kim  
King  
Kingston  
Klink  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
LaFalce  
LaHood  
Lantos  
Largent  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Laughlin  
Lazio  
Leach  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Lightfoot  
Linder  
Lipinski  
Livingston  
LoBiondo  
Longley  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Manton  
Manzullo  
Martinez  
Mascara  
Matsui  
McCarthy

McCrery  
McDade  
McHale  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntosh  
McKeon  
McKinney  
McNulty  
Meek  
Menendez  
Metcalfe  
Meyers  
Mica  
Miller (CA)  
Miller (FL)  
Mink  
Molinari  
Mollohan  
Montgomery  
Moorhead  
Moran  
Morella  
Murtha  
Myers  
Myrick  
Neal  
Nethercutt  
Ney  
Norwood  
Ortiz  
Oxley  
Packard  
Pallone  
Parker  
Paxon  
Payne (VA)  
Pelosi  
Peterson (FL)  
Peterson (MN)  
Pickett  
Pombo  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Portman  
Poshard  
Pryce  
Quillen  
Radanovich  
Reed  
Regula  
Richardson  
Riggs  
Roberts  
Rogers  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Rose  
Roybal-Allard  
Salmon  
Saxton  
Scarborough  
Schaefer  
Schiff  
Schroeder  
Scott  
Seastrand  
Serrano  
Shaw  
Shuster  
Skaggs  
Skeen  
Skelton  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Solomon  
Spratt  
Stearns  
Stenholm  
Stockman  
Stokes  
Stupak  
Talent  
Tanner  
Tate  
Tauzin  
Taylor (MS)  
Taylor (NC)  
Tejeda  
Thomas  
Thompson  
Thornberry  
Thornton  
Thurman  
Tiahrt  
Torkildsen

Traficant	Watts (OK)	Wilson
Visclosky	Waxman	Wise
Vucanovich	Weldon (FL)	Wolf
Waldholtz	Weldon (PA)	Wynn
Walker	Weller	Young (AK)
Walsh	White	Young (FL)
Wamp	Whitfield	Zeliff
Ward	Wicker	

## NAYS—98

Allard	Furse	Rahall
Andrews	Gutierrez	Ramstad
Ballenger	Gutknecht	Rangel
Barrett (WI)	Harman	Rivers
Becerra	Hinche	Roemer
Beilenson	Hoekstra	Roth
Berman	Horn	Roukema
Bonior	Johnston	Royce
Brown (CA)	Kennedy (MA)	Rush
Brown (OH)	Klecza	Sabo
Bryant (TX)	Klug	Sanders
Camp	Lincoln	Sanford
Cardin	Lofgren	Sawyer
Castle	Luther	Schumer
Chabot	Maloney	Sensenbrenner
Coburn	Markey	Shadegg
Collins (IL)	Martini	Shays
Collins (MI)	McDermott	Slaughter
Conyers	Meehan	Souder
Cooley	Mfume	Stark
Coyne	Mineta	Studds
DeFazio	Minge	Torres
Dellums	Nadler	Torricelli
Dingell	Neumann	Upton
Doggett	Nussle	Velazquez
Duncan	Oberstar	Vento
Ehlers	Obey	Waters
Engel	Olver	Watt (NC)
Evans	Orton	Woolsey
Filner	Pastor	Wyden
Fox	Payne (NJ)	Yates
Frank (MA)	Petri	Zimmer
Franks (NJ)	Quinn	

## NOT VOTING—10

Hilliard	Sisisky	Volkmer
Moakley	Spence	Williams
Owens	Stump	
Reynolds	Tucker	

## □ 1856

Messrs. BRYANT of Texas, CAMP, CASTLE, SCHUMER, McDERMOTT, NEUMANN, GUTKNECHT, and Ms. RIVERS changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. FLAKE, JACOBS, and FOGLIETTA changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and that I may include extraneous and tabular material on the conference report on the bill, H.R. 1817.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was not objection.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1976. An act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendments to the bill (H.R. 1976) "An Act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes", requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. BOND, Mr. GORTON, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. BURNS, Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. BUMPERS, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. KERREY, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. BYRD, be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that Mr. STEVENS, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GLENN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. REID, be appointed as conferees on the part of the Senate on the bill (S. 219) "An Act to ensure economy and efficiency of Federal Government operations by establishing a moratorium on regulatory rulemaking actions, and for other purposes", in lieu of Mr. NICKLES, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GLENN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. REID.

The message also announced that Mr. STEVENS, Mr. ROTH, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. McCain, Mr. GLENN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. COATS, Mr. EXON, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. JOHNSTON, and Mr. DODD, be appointed as conferees on the part of the Senate on the bill (S. 4) "An Act to grant the power to the President to reduce budget authority" in lieu of Mr. ROTH, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. McCain, Mr. GLENN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. COATS, Mr. EXON, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. JOHNSTON, and Mr. DODD.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 99-498, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints Dr. Robert N. Kelly, of Kansas, to the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for a 3-year term effective October 1, 1995.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1976, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1976) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, with Senate amendments thereto, disagree to the Senate amendments and

agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TORKILDSEN). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. DURBIN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. DURBIN moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 1976, be instructed to agree to the amendment of the Senate numbered 88.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] will be recognized for 30 minutes and the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. SKEEN] will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] is recognized for 30 minutes.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the motion instructs the House conferees to recede to the Senate number for section 502 rural low-income housing direct loans. The House-passed amount is \$550 million, while the Senate provided \$1 billion. The House-reported amount, however, was \$900 million.

Receding to the Senate for this important, necessary and popular program will merely take the activity back to the approximate level originally recommended by the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. SKEEN], my friend, the chairman of the subcommittee, and agreed to by the Committee on Appropriations. Even at the Senate level, the section 502 program will be \$200 million below the \$1.2 billion provided for fiscal year 1995 and the amount requested for 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

## □ 1900

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, my good friend and former chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from Illinois, is offering a motion to instruct the conferees to recede to the Senate mark for section 502 direct loans for rural housing.

The Senate amendment provides for a loan level of \$1 billion, almost double the amount in the House bill. The Senate mark is actually a little more than the program level for the current fiscal year.

The gentleman knows as well as anyone the difficulty we had in providing funds for the rural housing and development programs given the severe budget constraints we have been under. However, he also knows that I and many other Members regard the 502 program and other rural programs as extremely important and I assure him that I will work hard in the conference with him to do the absolute best we can for rural America.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time. VerDate 20-SEP-95 07:02 Sep 21, 1995 Jkt 099061